

REMARKS

A Notice of Allowability was issued for this application on January 8, 2007. Claims 1-22, 24-58 and 68 are allowed. In the Notice of Allowability, the Examiner indicated that the restriction requirement as set forth in the Office Action mailed on April 22, 2005 had been reconsidered in view of the allowability of claims to the elected invention pursuant to MPEP § 821.04(a). The restriction requirement was withdrawn as to any claim that requires all the limitations of an allowable claim. Therefore, claims 7-13, 39, 47, 48, 50, 52, 54, 56 and 58 are no longer withdrawn from consideration because the claims require all of the limitations of an allowable claim. However, according to the Notice, claims 59-67 and 69 are withdrawn from consideration because the claims do not require all of the limitations of an allowable claim.

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the courtesy of a telephonic interview between Examiner Berman and Applicants' representative, Lizette Fernandez, on March 30, 2007. During this interview, the rejoinder of claims 59-67 and 69 was discussed. In particular, Ms. Fernandez noted that claims 59-67 and 69 are all directed to copolymers which are a type of polymer, and should be allowable if amended to include all of the limitations of allowable claim 1. To this end, claims 59 and 69 are amended herein to include all of the limitations of claim 1. No new matter is believed to be added by these amendments. Therefore, pursuant to MPEP § 821.04(a), Applicants respectfully request rejoinder of claims 59-67 and 69 and allowance of these claims to issue.

No fees are believed to be due; however, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees that may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 14-0629.

Respectfully submitted,

NEEDLE & ROSENBERG, P.C.

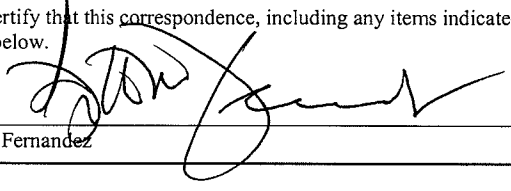


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Lizette M. Fernandez

4/2/07

Date